



# Washington State Department of Agriculture *Hearing Notice*

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WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, Washington 98504-2560

## **Asparagus Commission termination hearings set in Yakima, Pasco**

OLYMPIA – Asparagus growers can share their comments on whether to keep or to terminate the Washington Asparagus Commission by testifying at two hearings this month slated by the state Department of Agriculture. Hearings are scheduled for:

- **Yakima:** West Coast Yakima Center, 607 Yakima Ave. at 1 p.m. Dec. 12.
- **Pasco:** TRAC, 6600 Burden Blvd. at 9 a.m. Dec. 13.

Agriculture officials are seeking testimony on several issues including the Washington Asparagus Commission's role in accomplishing its mission of advertising and promoting sales of asparagus.

Washington growers this year produced 34,200 tons of asparagus on 19,000 acres with a production value of \$48.9 million, down from \$54.9 million in 2000. Washington ranks second in the nation for production of asparagus, producing 33 percent of the nation's crop. Growers have expressed concerns over labor costs, international competition and price levels for their commodity.

Written testimony, which must be received by Dec. 13, may be sent to Debbie Anderson, Commodity Commission Coordinator, Washington State Department of Agriculture, P.O. Box 42560, Olympia, WA 98504-2560. Comments may also be sent via FAX to (360) 902-2092 or by e-mail to [danderson@agr.wa.gov](mailto:danderson@agr.wa.gov).

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